

VB trustee pushes for museum completion

By JUDSON BRANAM
Press Staff Writer

2-21-1988
VAN BUREN TWP. — Fred Hudson has a goal.

The silver-haired trustee of the township board acts as board liaison to the Belleville

Area Museum, a project that has been stalled by recent funding shortages.

He is determined to see the project's 11 models of turn-of-the-century area buildings go from the wooden skeletons they

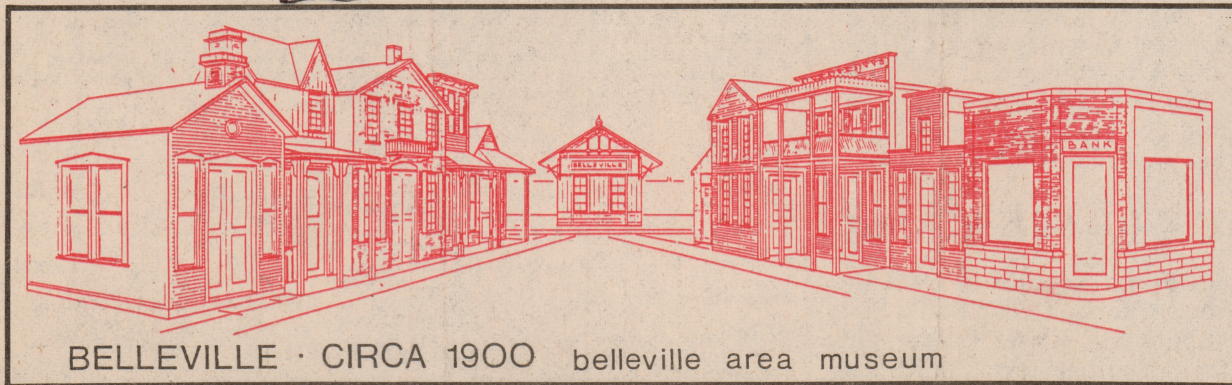
are now to a showpiece for educators, history buffs and community members curious about the past.

So, although previous action on the museum came after joint action of member communities

Van Buren Township, Belleville and Sumpter Township, Hudson requested — and got — a \$2,500 commitment from his board to complete the Old Van Buren Township Hall portion of the museum. Along with the \$2,500, the Van Buren board kicked in the services of township maintenance worker Bob Sears, who has taken an interest in the project.

Hudson said that building, which will feature an upstairs "hands-on" museum for young students, "most typifies the construction of the era, and it's one the township can really identify with."

Work on the museum project, in a 60-by 35-foot area of the former Quirk School, has been
(See MUSEUM, Page 4A)



BELLEVILLE · CIRCA 1900 belleville area museum

From left, Denton Church, Dressmaker's House, old VB Township Hall, Pullen's Furniture and Undertaking, Bebe's General Store, Belleville Train Depot, old Sumpter School, Dr. Forbes' House, Arlington Hotel, Drugstore, Belleville Bank.

Thursday in the cafeteria. is also an employee at the hospital.
 Featured at the event will be Ypsilanti singers and songwriters including Cedric Williams 3456. For information, call 572-3456.

Free dog, cat care programs set

ANN ARBOR — Free programs are available for dog and cat care from the Humane Society of Huron Valley.

Instructors from the Ann Arbor Dog Training Club will give tips on health care, feeding, grooming, housebreaking, obedience and breed characteristics at 7 p.m. Tuesday. For information, call 662-5545.

County hunger program scheduled

Bread for the World and the Interfaith Council For Peace-Hunger Task Force, will present a program titled "Hunger in Washtenaw County" at 7 p.m. Tuesday at the Holy Trinity Chapel, 511 W. Forest.

Program speakers will include representatives from the Huron Harvest Food Bank, SOS Community Crisis Center and the Southeastern Michigan Food Coalition.

For information, call Bread for the World at 487-9058 or Chuck Barbieri at 663-1870.

Ann Arbor

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Press photo by Steve Jones

Hudson with Nick Kussy in front of old VB Township Hall model

Museum

(Continued from Page 1A)

funded thus far by a \$12,500 Michigan Equity Grant awarded in 1987, but those funds are almost gone. A request for a second, \$50,000 Equity Grant was denied.

Despite the shortage of funds, Hudson says action *now* is critical.

"I don't want this project to just be done in dribbles," he said. "I want to see it wrapped up, a complete package in another year."

To do that, more help will be needed than the township's commitment to one building and the Van Buren High School

vocational education class that works eight hours a week on the project.

Hudson said he plans to ask Sumpter and Belleville to each fund completion of one building, citing the Belleville Train Depot and the Sumpter School as good possibilities. In addition, he is asking community groups such as Kiwanis and Rotary to pitch in with a building apiece.

"Getting this structure all completed should be a real catalyst to get the ball rolling," Hudson said. "All we really need is to get enough people to commit funding. We have the labor force here."

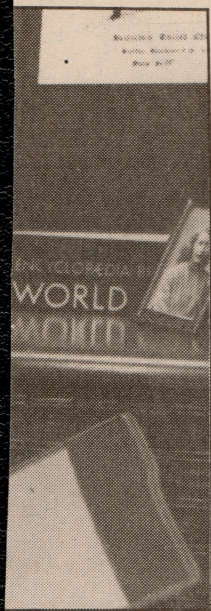
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and Latonya Witherspoon, 100-meter nordic skiing.

Silver medalists for 100-meter speed skating were Mitchell, Shively and Gregory Tubbs. Other silver medalists were Nkrumah Burrell, 300-meter speed skating and Karen Ratliff, 500-meter nordic skiing.

Winning bronze medals were Lou Dixon for 100- and 300-meter speed skating; Tubbs, 300-meter speed skating; Kwame Burrell, 100- and 500-meter nordic skiing; and Patterson, 100-meter nordic skiing and Witherspoon, 500 meter nordic skiing.

Winning ribbons were Kenny Fortin, 50- and 100-meter nordic skiing; Martha Johnson, 100- and 500-meter nordic skiing; and Glen McCarty, 50- and 100-meter nordic skiing.

Wayne H. Abbott and Sheryl Dey, senior administrators with Huron Residential Services for Youth Inc., have been elected to the board of directors of the Michigan Association of Children's Alliances.

Abbott will serve a three-year term as chairperson of the association's legislative committee. Dey was elected board member-at-large for a three year term.

Huron Residential Services for Youth Inc. is an Ann Arbor-based, private, non-profit agency providing community-based treatment programs for adolescents. The agency operates several residential homes in the Ypsilanti-Ann Arbor area.

Robert Meadows and Caroltane "Misty" Guard, two veterans from Ypsilanti, will compete in the Veterans Administration's Winter Sports Clinic at Powderhorn Ski Area in Grand Junction, Colo.

Meadows and Guard, both of whom are confined to wheelchairs, will take part in a six-day clinic at Powderhorn designed to allow disabled veterans to learn adaptive ski techniques from "Colorado Discover Ability," the handicap ski school at Powderhorn. The clinic will include three days of ski lessons and training and three days of other activities.

Meadows and Guard are members of the Ann Arbor VA Wheelchair Team, a group of 30 athletes from across Michigan and northwestern Ohio.

Four Michigan veterans will take part in the winter ski clinic.

So what about you?

Or someone in your family, in your neighborhood, at work, school or church who has achieved some notable accomplishment. If it's good news about you, or them, we'd like to share it with our readers in our About You column which will be appearing on this page on a regular basis. Submit the information, and picture (not necessary) along with phone number for verification to: About You, Ypsilanti Press, 20 E. Michigan, Ypsilanti, Mich., 48198 or drop it off at the newsroom window.



Press photo by Paul Hurschmann

Butler says the museum may be ready in six months

Depicts Main Street in the 1900s

Storefronts nearly complete in Belleville museum project

6-13-1988

By LINDA TIEN
Press Staff Writer

BELLEVILLE — Soon Belleville area residents will be able to spend an afternoon strolling along brick-paved Main Street, maybe pausing to browse in BeeBe's General Store, checking on happenings at the Old Van Buren Township Hall, or looking at the latest styles in the Dressmaker's Shop.

But there won't be any mini skirts in the shop. Most likely high-necked, long-sleeved dresses to be worn with lots of petticoats will be featured. And there won't be any cars on the

road, only a horse-drawn carriage. For this is Belleville as it was in the early 1900s, as it will be portrayed at the Belleville Area Museum.

According to Fonie Butler, curator of the museum, such a stroll down Main Street will hopefully be possible in another six months. But for now, the storefronts stand near completion, waiting to be filled with donated artifacts from the era.

"We're looking at more agricultural items—the kinds of things that were typical of this area," Butler said.

(See MUSEUM, Page 4A)



Jessica, helped by her mother, Cissy McClure, is declared a winner over Von Erich.

Jessica KOs wrestler with one smack

Jessica McClure, whose three-day ordeal at the bottom of an abandoned well captured international attention, gave a wrestler a kiss that "knocked him dead" during matches in Lancaster, Tex., to raise funds for a boy with heart and lung problems.

A crowd of about 500 cheered Friday night as Jessica, 2, got in one corner of a wrestling ring while 5-year-old **Brennan Bolin**, who doctors said needs a heart-lung transplant, went to another corner.

Then a "match" was announced between wrestler **Kevin Von Erich** and "America's Sweetheart, Jessica McClure," and the crowd was told it would see how Jessica could knock out the wrestling champ.

The toddler kissed Von Erich, and he staggered and fell to the mat.

Jessica's appearance was to help raise medical expenses for Brennan, who lives in Lancaster, a Dallas suburb.

Helping MS a personal job for Travanti

Actor **Daniel Travanti**, a star on the "Hill Street Blues" television series, has a personal reason for wanting to help the National Multiple Sclerosis Society.

His 54-year-old brother, Bob, has had the disease 25 years.

"It is the least I can do," said Travanti, 48, the society's new campaign chairman. He was in Seattle, Wash., during the weekend for the organization's leadership conference.

Today, **Bob Travanti** can't move from the neck down. Mentally, however, he is "quick and crazed as I am," Travanti said.



TRAVANTI

FOR THE RECORD

DEATHS

Genevieve M. Willoughby, 68, of 594 East Grand Boulevard, Ypsilanti Township; Stark Funeral Service Moore Memorial Chapel, Ypsilanti.

Ann Arbor Christian Development Center, 7 p.m.; Calvary United Methodist Church, Newport and Miller, Ann Arbor; for information, call 994-5344 or 467-4392.

Alcoholics For Christ, 7-9 p.m.;

(Continued from Page 1A)

"It will be heaviest in the Upper Peninsula," said meteorologist John Kowaleski at the weather service's office at Detroit Metropolitan Airport. "It will be pretty much hit-and-miss elsewhere. What we get probably won't be enough."

The hot, sunny days in late

Obituaries

McNEW, Bette E.

1755 North Rosewood

Ypsilanti

Age: 67

Died Thursday, June 9, 1988, after an extended illness at Oakhill Hospital, Brooksville, Fla. She was born January 25, 1921, in Hart, Mich. Mrs. McNew moved to the Ypsilanti area in 1952. She was also a member of St. John Catholic Church. Survivors include her husband, Mac McNew, of Ypsilanti; seven children, Wallace (Alice) Robinson, of Charlotte, Thomas (Barbara) Robinson, of Shelby, Edith Andrews, of Ypsilanti, Phyllis (Jim) Fields Easter, of Ann Arbor, Janice McNew, Alan (Pamala) McNew, of Spring Hill, Fla., and Brenda (Bob) Morgan, of Ypsilanti; 24 grandchildren, 16 great-grandchildren, one half-sister, Nina Ziombkowski, of Hart, and one niece, Miranda McDaniel, of Ypsilanti. Mass of the Resurrection will be celebrated Tuesday, June 14, at 10:30 a.m. at St. John Catholic Church with the Rev. Fr. David Harvey as celebrant. Burial will follow in St. John Catholic Cemetery. The rosary will be recited today at 3:30 p.m. at the funeral home. Contributions in Mrs. McNew's honor may be made to the American Cancer Society. Envelopes will be available at the funeral home, where the family will receive friends today from 1 to 4 p.m. and 6 to 9 p.m.

Geer-Logan Funeral Home Inc.
Ypsilanti's Golden Rule Funeral Home

SEARS
LAWN & GARDEN
Sale starts June 13

ORTHO

Museum

(Continued from Page 1A)

The museum is in a 60-by 35-foot former gymnasium of the Quirk Building in Belleville. The room is being transformed into a street from the early 1900s with replicas of buildings constructed between 1850 and 1900 lining each side. The museum is "designed for security" according to Butler. The buildings each will have large glass windows and brightly lit rooms to allow viewing of the interiors, but keep curious hands off.

The upper level of the buildings, however, will be a large "Grandma's Attic" where visitors will be invited to touch and explore to their heart's content.

To complete the early 1900s atmosphere and create the feeling of being on an outdoor street, a mural of the Huron River will be painted on one wall of the room by Chris Bentley of Bentley Galleries. Butler also is trying to find a horse-drawn carriage to stand on the street.

Antiques to fill the buildings have already been coming in from local donors, according to Phyllis Queener, coordinator of the Quirk Building. "Just last week we had people come in and donate some items," she said indicating two old, but well preserved, candy boxes in the general store.

Queener said there may be some restoration work in store when furniture starts coming in, and restoration specialists at museums and universities have already been contacted for advice.

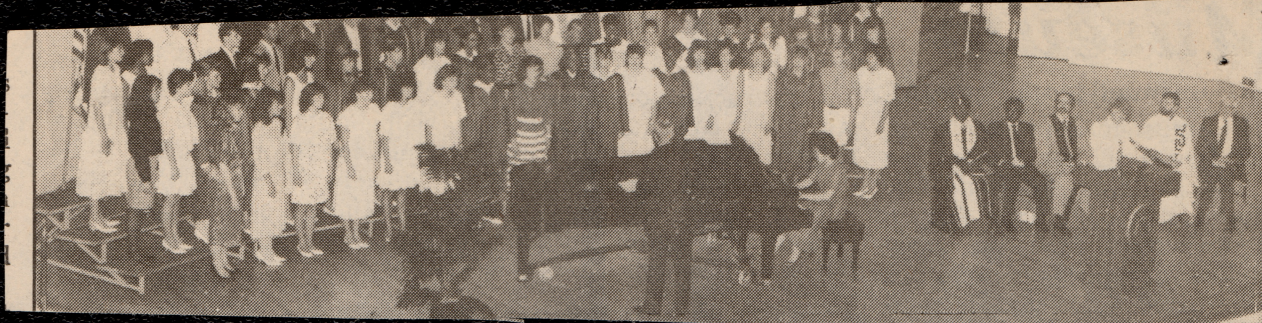
The museum is a joint project of the city of Belleville, Sumpter Township, and Van Buren Township. "It's a little bit of an effort trying to bring together three municipalities," Butler said. "But they're working beautifully together."

Construction on the project started a year ago by Belleville High School students in a building techniques class. During the fall, a class from the adult education program worked on the buildings. Teachers Nick

Kussy and Terry Bird are supervising the project. Original plans for the building were designed by Jeff Winstell, a graduate student at Eastern Michigan University.

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why pay more!



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Belleville United Presbyterian celebrates 25th anniversary

By JO COLLINS MATHIS
Press Life/Style Editor

The Belleville United Presbyterian Church will celebrate the 25th anniversary of its charter on Sunday at the church, 11900 Belleville Road.

The church is one of the seven Chapels of Martha and Mary were built by Mr. and Mrs. Henry Ford as a perpetual tribute to their mothers, Mary Ford and Martha Bryant. The first of the churches stands in Greenfield Village, Dearborn, and was completed in 1929. The others were located in Sudbury, Mass.; two in Richmond Hill, Geo. (one for blacks and one for whites); and the others were in Macon, Camp Legion and Willow Run.

The chapel now known as the Belleville United Presbyterian Church was built for the Camp Legion unit at Willow Run. After its service was completed there, the chapel was moved in 1954 to the Cherry Hill Baptist Church in Dearborn. It was used there as a place of worship by that congregation until they outgrew it and sold it for one dollar to the Presbyterians in Belleville in July of 1978.

The chapel now stands just a few miles from where it was originally constructed, on property that coincidentally belonged many years ago to the Ford family.

Of the seven chapels, this Martha-Mary Chapel is the only one currently in use as a regular place of worship. It is also the only one, outside of the Greenfield Village Chapel, that is making use of the original pews and other furnishings.

It required months of research and hard work on the part of the congregation to re-



Press photo by Paul Hurschmann

The Fords donated funds to build the church.

store the chapel to its present state, according to the Rev. Bob Orr, pastor of the church. The first service of worship was held on July 15, 1979, with the dedication of the chapel on Nov. 11, 1979, a date significant as the twentieth anniversary of the first meeting of the congregation at the old Township Hall. In addition to the regular 10:30 a.m. Sunday service, a celebratory service will be held at 3 p.m. in the chapel. Special guests will include community leaders and pastors of other churches. A reception will follow in the fellowship hall.

Crime blotter

Arsenal, drugs seized

Washtenaw County Sheriff's deputies and federal agents seized ten guns and about three pounds of marijuana during a simultaneous raid at Dave's Diamonds and Gold, 1701 E. Michigan, and a residence in the 900 block of E. Michigan about 9 a.m. Friday.

Police said a 29-year-old Township man and 25-year-old woman were arrested for possession of the drug with intent to deliver. The woman will also be charged with obstructing police officers. Both subjects were released pending authorization of warrants.

Police probe robbery links

SUMPTER TWP. — Police said they suspect an attempted armed robbery at 1:40 p.m. Friday may be linked to at least five other attempts in the area within a 24-hour period.

According to reports, a boy about 17 entered Hall Market, 17400 Savage, and pulled a knife on the clerk. When the clerk shouted, he fled without loot. No vehicle was seen.

The method fits descriptions of similar attempts involving an additional youth in Westland, Taylor, Romulus and Huron Township.

Off-road driver arrested

A man driving a small car in the backyard of a home in the 700 block of Harriet about 2:40 a.m. Friday told police he was just trying to get home.

Police said when they arrived the man was stuck in the car, which was lodged between a fence and a sink. He locked both doors and refused to come out, but eventually allowed officers to remove him from the car.

When police brought the handcuffed suspect to the station at 505 W. Michigan, he bolted and ran across the street. He will be charged with destroying the lawn of the home and resisting arrest.

Police nab BB shootists

VAN BUREN TWP. — Two local men in their 20s, who have long police records, shot BB pellets at a passing truck at 9:45 p.m. Thursday in the 43400 block of N. I-94 Service Drive, police said.

The driver was unhurt but shaken. Police nearby witnessed the incident, and after a short chase apprehended the suspects.

Pizza driver robbed

SUPERIOR TWP. — A man told a Cottage Inn Pizza driver he had a gun then robbed him about 7 p.m. Friday in the 8800 block of MacArthur, police said.

The suspect escaped with about \$50 and two gold chains. The driver was unhurt.

Larcenies

FRIDAY

7:55 a.m., 8600 block of Spinnaker Way; 1988 GMC; value: undetermined.

2:20 p.m., Galaxy, 50 Ecorse; \$100.

3:15 p.m., 1500 block of Wingate; 1976 Chevrolet; value: undetermined.

7:55 p.m., 1000 block of Parkwood; \$130.

Two arra

By BECKY ALLEN
and PAULA DOHRING
Press Staff Writers

An Ypsilanti couple police say wore ski masks to hold up three local banks within three hours were charged with bank robbery when arraigned Friday afternoon in 14B District Court.

Magistrate Charles Pope set bond at \$150,000 cash for Daniel Edwin Mains, 45, of 12 Congress, and his girlfriend Bertha May Provost, 37, of 11 Congress.

The pair received the \$150,000 bond because of what Pope described as "substantial violent threats" involving explosions during the robberies at 1 p.m. Wednesday and 1:40 p.m. Thursday at Bank One, 15 Holmes.

Provost was charged with the earlier incident and Mains accused of the Thursday robbery.

Shedd

(Continued from Page 1A)

owners, at least partly because of the negative publicity generated by the drug conviction.

Daniels said Shedd's sentence is one of 10 so far stemming from the indictments. The sentences have ranged from two to 16 years, the attorney said.

Shedd will be notified within the next two to three weeks to report to a federal prison, Daniels said, after Judge McKinney denied Shedd's request to delay his term until after Christmas. The prison where Shedd will serve his term has not been chosen, she said.

"TALKING IT OUT!"

IS RITUAL A PART OF MOURNING?

So many aspects of our lives are touched by the rituals and

Woman kills herself in downtown office



Dorothy Curtis and granddaughter Ryanne stroll past building replicas in the Belleville Area Museum.

Belleville museum open for preview

By MARTINE MICKIEWICZ
NEWS SPECIAL WRITER

12-14-1988

BELLEVILLE — Belleville-area residents can take a break from shopping and visiting this holiday season with a short trip down memory lane — literally.

From now until Tuesday, amateur historians and nostalgia buffs — along with the general public — are invited to preview the Belleville Area Museum. Ninety percent complete, the museum, located in the former Quirk Elementary School gym, features scaled-down replicas of 11 Belleville-area buildings.

Visitors can sip warm cider and stroll down the reconstructed, building-lined "street" to visit the old Belleville train depot. Those less active but more petite can sit in the desks of the old Sumpter School. Or the curious can direct questions to the volunteer tour guides dressed in period cos-

turnes.

"It's a labor of love," said Museum Board President Juanita Graf, who added that she's delighted to show off the joint community effort of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren townships.

The grand opening, slated for early next year, will bring to a culmination more than 2 1/2 years of work.

The opening day of the preview on Monday was marred by an accident involving an adult education student, Ronald Todd Hamilton, who served his arm while cutting molding.

Graf said planning for the museum began at a St. Patrick's Day party nearly three years ago. At the party, Fonie Butler, a Van Buren School District employee, mentioned it would be nice to have a community museum, perhaps similar to the one in Plymouth.

"I sort of was stuck with the honor," said Graf, who heads the museum's nine-mem-

ber board of directors.

The museum got its start in 1986 from a \$12,500 Michigan Equity Fund Grant. When a similar application was rejected last year, the museum supporters turned to the community.

"Local service clubs were quite generous," said Graf. To date, the project has received \$15,000 locally and has a promise from McDonald's Restaurant for \$4,000 more.

Even though construction is nearly complete on the buildings, board members already are planning expansion projects.

"Once we complete the museum, our direction will be the hands-on portion," said Graf.

Slated for an adjacent room, the hands-on museum will host a number of activities, possibly candle-making or weaving.

See MUSEUM, A10

CONTINUED FROM A9

If the project were to receive its latest MEFG request for \$50,000, a pavilion would be constructed outside Quirk. Farm equipment too large to be stored inside and a small blacksmith shop would be housed there.

"I expect to hear about the grant prior to Christmas," said Butler. If the museum grant application is rejected, Butler said, the expansion projects would be delayed, and money would again have to be raised locally.

But for now, board members have their hands full putting the final

touches on the museum and overseeing the tours. Butler and his helpers are also busy cataloguing the many donated artifacts, some of which are already on display inside the buildings.

Items of interest include the original Belleville Depot sign, already affixed to the replica, and yet-to-be-displayed antiques such as one of the first Edison light bulbs, a telegraph and Indian artifacts.

The museum, located at 46270 Ayres at Quirk Road, is open today, Thursday, Monday and Tuesday from 4-8 p.m. Admission is free.

quest, said Debra Townsend, Engler's spokeswoman.

The bill died Thursday in partisan bickering. The Senate tied the bill to a repeal of the state's inheritance tax, which would cost the state treasury about \$80 million. The House refused to consider the inheritance tax bill.

Townsend said Engler is expecting the governor to take a look at the inheritance tax and ask the House to accept the Senate-passed legislation.

"It too helps seniors," she said of the inheritance tax bill.

On school finance, Blanchard said he is still trying hard to sell his proposal, even after its rejection last week by the state House. The Senate

put the issue to voters but saying they were planning to campaign against it.

"It's a good plan. If something ever happens on this issue, it's going to turn out to be something very similar to what we have here," Blanchard said. "The people would far prefer to pay for schools from sales than property taxes."

The governor said he is letting school officials, business groups and lawmakers digest what happened — with some help in interpretation of events and policy from the governor's office.

"I'm willing to fight for it. I'm in the process of selling it," Blanchard

page editors to give them his version of events.

Blanchard said the 1989-90 state budget deliberations, under way internally in the administration, are the source of "agonizing choices, absolutely difficult, gut-wrenching choices."

Blanchard said state revenues will be up about the rate of inflation — 4 percent to 5 percent.

But lower federal revenues, increased mandated costs by the federal government and high spending for the state's prisons will suck up most of that revenue.

"Every other category will have to be cut somewhat or modified," he said.

SOULE

CONTINUED FROM A3

College of Business projects but later claimed sole credit for them, blew a chance in 1985 to enable a private developer to renovate the former Four Hills Apartments at a cost of \$6 million which would have generated \$80,000 tax revenue, and reduced the city manager's discretionary purchasing authority from \$5,000 to \$1,000.

Soule said "several Murdock people have tried to dissuade me from running" but he refused to "sit idly by when a person gives negative leadership" and "intimidation tactics."

He added: "Someone said without hesitation that 'the Murdock Ma-

chine' is in dire need of an engine overhaul. However, I say, 'Why overhaul the engine when the body's rusted out? It's time for a change.'"

Murdock this morning had a restrained response to his foe's attack, saying he had not seen Soule's statement. But the mayor, who is seeking a fourth term, asserted that it is everybody's opinion that "the city has made a lot of progress in the past six years. I was in office and I was a major part of it, although obviously that doesn't mean others didn't play a role."

He assailed Soule for bringing "trash" to council agenda, such as the "South African style road blocks," referring to a police barricade option Soule had offered and

then withdrawn earlier this year as a way of curbing drug trafficking.

Also running for the Democratic nomination is Mary Wise of 212 W. Michigan Ave., a political newcomer seeking her first elective office. On the Republican side, Councilman Clyde King of the Second Ward is making a second bid for the mayor's job in what could turn out to be a rematch of the 1987 race, when he narrowly lost to Murdock.

In the audience Tuesday listening to Soule's announcement was Ron Egnor, a former city attorney. He said he is interested in the race because he felt "a lot of people are ready for change, although whether this (Soule's bid) is the kind of change they want remains to be seen."

BANKS

CONTINUED FROM A1

cord 219 heists.

Ann Arbor Police Detective Sgt. Thomas Caldwell notes that the arrest of a suspect often can clear up several bank robberies. He said that was the case when Ricky Lee Housewright was arrested in Dearborn in 1985.

Housewright, called the "finger-point" bandit because of his habit of holding his finger in his pocket and pointing it as if it were a gun, was suspected of six local bank robberies that year. He pleaded guilty to two of them and is serving 10 to 25 years in prison.

cal bank robbers probably contribute to the reduction in the number of such crimes.

"We're always hearing about 'copy cat' crimes, but those with a bank robbery background also read about arrests and convictions," he said. "They steer away from communities which apprehend and prosecute."

The FBI says most bank robbers who get away do so with less than \$2,000. But not that many get away — at least not for long. The national arrest rate for bank robberies is 80 percent.

According to the FBI, drugs play a large part in bank robberies. In a

heists were cocaine-related.

Caldwell agrees that many bank robbers are drug addicts who rob to support their habit.

"This guy who tried the First of America this month and then was identified robbing another bank in Wayne County two hours later could well be addicted," he said. "You have to be pretty desperate to take that kind of a chance."

Some years ago, local banks began training programs for tellers on how to react if confronted by a bandit and Ann Arbor police officers have been used as instructors in those courses.

The Associated Press contributed to this report.

AP PHOTO
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HOLIDAY HOURS:

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9:30-5:30; Sun. 12-4:30